

SEEC Magazine

A PROPHETIC PERSPECTIVE

VOLUME 21

ISSUE 3

JUNE/JULY 2017

**Maturing Sons
Overcoming
Jim Hodges**

**Sons Must
Get It
Kathy Gabler**

**Christ's
Redemptive Rule
Simon Purvis**

**Radical
Melissa Gabler**

**Doors And
Self-Government
Marty Gabler**

STRENGTHEN
ENCOURAGE
EQUIP
CHURCH
MINISTRIES
1Co 14:3; Eph 4:12

**Your Breakthrough
Dr. Lynn Burling**

"God is my King from of old, Who works deeds of deliverance in the midst of the earth" Ps. 74:12



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ON THE COVER:

Psalm 139:9-"If I climb upward on the rays of the morning sun or land on the most distant shore of the sea where the sun sets, ¹⁰even there your hand would guide me and your right hand would hold on to me."



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SEEC Magazine is a bi-monthly publication. It is for the purpose of presenting teaching on the subjects of the Kingdom of God, prophecy, five-fold ministry, dreams and visions, and intercession. Though each of these subjects may not be covered in each issue, they will be covered through the course of the year's publications.

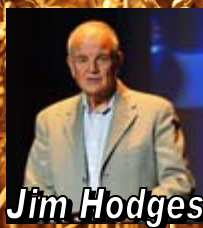
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Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Thank you for sowing into SEEC Ministries International.

Maturing Sons Overcoming



Jim Hodges

The devil offered Jesus the kingdoms of this world in the wilderness. It is my conviction that Christ began to take on those kingdoms before the cross. He took them on in the wilderness of Judea and won the victory there. He then celebrated the victory in the garden near Golgotha. The whole ministry of Jesus is to transform a wilderness into a garden. The Bible began in a garden and ends in a garden-like city.

When the devil told Jesus in the wilderness that he would give Him the kingdoms of this world Jesus, of course, would not bow to him. He defeated the devil in the desert as the Son of Man because He did not use deity powers to do so. That gives us hope of overcoming the devil also. On the cross, Jesus legally, judicially and covenantally stripped Satan of all his authority and made an open show of his being defeated.

So, how do we view the ongoing conflict with this enemy who is defeated? We can get perspective for this from the parable of the wheat and tares. The Son of Man sows His sons as seeds, seeds of wheat into the earth which is His field. He was a seed sown by Father, and He sows you and me. So we are sons and seeds sown out beyond the four walls of the Church building to be distributed into all the mountains of culture. This



will bring in the harvest that God wants, multiple sons and daughters who are like His Son. Matt 13:37-43, *And He said, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and as for the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. "So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. "The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.*

The wheat seeds lead to bread, but tares mixed in a wheat field indicate false bread, pseudo bread. Only true wheat, the Bread of Heaven, can sustain us. Tares can only deceive. (People can be deceived by what can satisfy them.) One of the main points in this parable is that the tares are not removed until they mature while mixed in with the wheat. Attempts to remove the tares from the wheat during growth will destroy the harvest. So, in history, wheat or sons of the Kingdom grow together simultaneously with the tares or sons of the evil one. They are occupying the same earth and they are at war because of two different agendas. That is the basic reason that becoming a son or daughter of God is signing up for conflict. Peace only comes by winning the conflict, not just tolerating the enemy. The time for removing the tares is when they fully manifest what they are, like Jesus cast out devils when they manifested.

The heart of the message here is in how the tares got into the field. Matt 13:25, *"But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went away."* If the Church sleeps, if the sons of the Kingdom sleep, that guarantees the sowing of tares in our nation. In America, the tares of liberalism, socialism, progressivism, crony capitalism, Marxism and Islamism have been sown while we slept. It happened on our watch because we didn't watch. Edmund Burke said, "All that's required for evil men to triumph is for good men to do nothing." Our passivity and apathy can keep us from our responsibility to steward the earth. Although that tells us where we have missed it, (and thank God that is changing) there is another question that might be the main point. Does this parable tell us that the sons of the Kingdom and the sons of the evil one are in a standoff before both mature in history? In other words, are we in a deadlock, a stalemate, that would appear at times like the enemy even has the upper hand? No, the Bible answers this of course, through the prevailing Kingdom that is evident in the parables of the

leaven and the mustard seed. **Once the leaven permeates and probes into history, it cannot be stopped, and the tiny mustard seed grows to be the greatest tree in the garden.** Likewise, Jesus was sown by the Father as The Seed and The Son into the earth. That is accomplished and cannot be removed or ignored. It is a reality that is changing the earth. These things all prophesy the victory of the Kingdom. **Even when the Kingdom does not always manifest itself cataclysmically and apocalyptically, it is still in there like leaven in the lump and seed in the soil.**

God owns the farm. God owns the seed. God owns the barn. It is His field and the parable tells us that the final, ultimate removal of the tares is at the end of the age. The angels go forth and remove them, leaving the wheat. While this is an element of the “end times,” it also applies elsewhere. Through history there are other times of maturation. Noah’s day was a testament to the maturation of evil and God was down to eight people. Everyone else was removed. The waters came and the ark floated. The ark was a floating garden that kept eight people for a new beginning. In the Exodus, God removed the tares, the Egyptians. He drowned them and delivered His people. We have had this thing reversed. When Jesus came, Malachi prophesied it would be like a day of fire that burns up the chaff with unquenchable fire but He would bring His wheat into His barn. Satan and his sons would like to burn up God’s field but they cannot. God and His representatives win out over the sons of the evil one. Satan and his representatives are burned up by the Son of the Kingdom. Finding ourselves in times when it looks like we are not winning, is probably because we thought we couldn’t. The truth is that we are not in a deadlock or stalemate because God gave us dominion. There is still a battle and yes it gets messy, but we are the wheat. We might wonder how much more mature do the tares have to get to be removed? Perhaps the answer is that the mature tares do not get removed until the wheat matures. A farmer told me the way to distinguish wheat from tares. He said the wheat matures and comes to a full head so that it bows by the time of harvest. The tares remain vertical. So both of them do not get revealed until both mature and God, the harvester of His field, removes all stumbling blocks out of His Kingdom. So, let us not think we are stymied, but let us think, ‘Lord, help us to grow up and be mature,’ (which is not a matter of chronological age). The creation is groaning for us to mature and set creation free from its bondages and oppressions and bring liberty to the whole earth. The liberty of the children of God is exported so that the whole earth, all the nations, can experience the freedom of God. Though none of us can escape the process of maturing, I see God accelerating some people and generations. I’m amazed at how quickly they are

getting what took me months or even years. That makes me want to stay connected at the table of trust so that we can accelerate together.

May God grace us to steward the era we are entering into, this turning point, this acceleration of His Kingdom come. May His wisdom cover us as His favor over us brings maturation, increased revelation and loosing of resources for Kingdom purposes.

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In Mark 9, when Jesus and Peter, James and John came down from the Mount of Transfiguration experience, they found the other disciples with a crowd gathered and a man that said he'd brought his son for deliverance. The father explained that his son was possessed with a spirit which made him mute and seized him and slammed him to the ground while causing him to foam at the mouth and grind his teeth and stiffen out. Then he added, "Your disciples couldn't cast it out."

Jesus said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me!" (Mark 9:19). His frustration was obviously because He had been training the twelve to be sons who understood Kingdom Power, but they didn't seem

to “get it.” Jesus then looked to the father and asked, “How long has this been happening to your son?” The father answered, “From childhood. It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. If You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!” Jesus did not always ask a question like this. His question caused the man to lay everything on the table, 1) his grief from the past, 2) his helplessness in the present and 3) his plea for the future. Evidently, Jesus wanted the father to say it, so he could see his thinking because anticipation, or the realization of what can happen is only the beginning. The father’s follow-through-thinking would be crucial to their future.

Jesus said, “If you are able to believe, all things are possible to the ones believing.” He was telling him, “Sir, the ‘IF’ is in *your* court both now and in the future.” The way Jesus handled this situation shows us the Power of the Kingdom was being released for more than that boy. The deliverance was for the whole family.

An equipping insight here is that anticipating and participating in a Kingdom power moment may be more involved than we perceived in the very beginning. It may include prepping people to receive as well as equipping them to hold steady for the future. Some of the healing evangelists in the last sixty years would require people to be in three meetings before they got in the prayer line. I have to wonder if they too were trying to affect the thinking of people so they could align with God to keep their healing in the future.

No sooner were the words out of His mouth than the father cried, “Then I believe. Help me with my doubts!” That may sound weak in terms of faith, but that was the beginning of repentance as the man’s thinking was changing. Repentance brings Kingdom power and provision into reach. “Repent, for the Kingdom is at hand.” (Matt 4:17). So, when the power and provision of the Kingdom of God seems beyond our reach, it is time to rethink something.

So Jesus proceeded to rebuke the unclean spirit saying to it, “You deaf and mute spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again.” That power blast targeted the past, present and future of that family and that spirit. In verse 26, after crying out and throwing the boy into terrible convulsions, it came out. This kind of nasty, tenacious opposition is probably not going to be detailed in your up-front-briefing that you get for a mission like this, because you can see how it might dampen your anticipation if not make you faint at the thought of participation!

After the spirit was kicked out, the boy was pale as a corpse, so peo-

ple started saying, "He's **dead**." Here's another equipping insight in this scenario: sometimes participation in a Kingdom Power exploit may set off unusual repercussions or seemingly unending ripples around you! After all the clashes and outbursts and kicking and screaming already, the aftermath continued. Most of the people there were fearful and mouthing as if Jesus had just failed and ended up with a dead child. However, like Jesus, the important thing is to stay on task. He took the boy by the hand and raised him and he got up. The anticipation was fulfilled and the participation was complete and Father's business was finished!

Now, let's factor in something right here, anticipating Kingdom Power and participating in Father's business is not always going to be a marathon like Mark Chapter 9, nor will it always be a testimony of biblical proportion. It may center around what seems ordinary or unspiritual because Father's business includes showing up in the everyday life of His sons. Here's a real-life example of that: a friend, Hermana Cruz, from Venezuela was walking on the street to her daughter's door. A man on a motorcycle rushed up and put a gun in her chest to rob her. In reaction, she formed a gun with her hand and touched his temple and said, "Who's going to shoot first?" (That's anticipating the POWER and government of God to prevail in the moment.) He fell over the bike while scrambling to escape, and he ran away yelling, "You're crazy! You're crazy!"

A few weeks later, this same lady was in the teller's line at the bank and noticed hooded men at the head of the line trying to commit robbery. She stepped out of line and went to face off with the robbers and declared to them they wouldn't get out of that bank with more than a dollar! While she confronted them, it seemed they were blinded and didn't even see the teller contacting the police! The robbers ended up grabbing the cash on the counter and running out of the bank with about \$.80. The next day the headlines read: "Old Lady Stops Bank Robbery!"

Remember I mentioned that sometimes participation in Kingdom-Government-Prevailing-Power-Moments may set off unusual ripples. Sister Cruz was being yelled at and called "crazy" in her daughter's neighborhood, in front of her daughter's house, and she was labeled "Old Lady" in the local headlines! That's not the story-book ending one might expect!

Where does a saint get that kind of confidence and stride? The way I would answer that concerning this lady is that she was born-again into Kingdom Power and she grew up there and she obviously lives in a heightened state of Anticipation regarding Kingdom-Power-Within-Reach and regarding her relationship with the King of this Kingdom!

Anticipation of the Power of the Kingdom is to be our lifestyle, a lifestyle of confidence that God is in any given moment and His will and Government will prevail in that moment, and we are most certainly His heirs, His agents to legislate the moment and see that it does.

God intends ANTICIPATION to be a tool for us as sons. We can anticipate anticipation increasing in days ahead because it is Father's design for us to realize in advance and get a foretaste in order to participate.

The clear and present truth is that participation is going to go beyond our "THUS-FAR" experiences, both personal and public. Our awareness is being heightened and groomed concerning anticipation because we are moving into a time of more frequent and more intense, Sovereignly-Scheduled-Intersections, already written, slotted, staged and set for the coming decade.

Everyone of us could probably tell stories about a breath-taking impression, when we sensed the power of God was about to manifest awesomely. We probably could all admit times also when we were too scared to follow through or were hesitant and lost the moment. I don't mention these moments to guilt us for hesitating or for not having the courage to participate. Guilt is not the goal here! The Goal is to "Get It." And, we can be willing and fearless because our Father will grace us to "GET IT!"

(Kathy will be speaking at the DREAMS VISIONS PROPHECY SYMPOSIUM at Grace International Church in Willis, TX September 22-23, 2017. For more info and updates: martygabler.com/dreams-visions-prophecy/ or Church: 936-856-2455. Plan now to attend!)

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Kathy, Melissa and Marty Gabler
Each speaker will present a paper on their respective subject. Each attendee will receive a copy of the paper in the meeting. It is suggested that each person follow the speaker on their paper and write down comments or questions which may be offered during the Question and Answer Session Saturday afternoon.
Info: martygabler.com/dreams-visions-prophecy/

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YOUR BREAKTHROUGH IS WITHIN SIGHT



Lynn Burling

Your breakthrough is close by. It could be today or tomorrow. Breakthrough: “a sudden dramatic discovery or development or improvement; a sudden advance; moving thru or beyond an obstacle”. *God has a delivery system for every need.*

I believe the Lord wants to encourage you to not give up on Him, not give up on His Word and promises and I believe this teaching will serve it’s purpose to help equip us for the breakthrough coming and the next one as well. Miracles are defined by the Supernatural Measure God uses to reveal Himself to us and for us. (Job 5:9, NIV) “*He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted.*” Poets say, “Hope is the sunshine of the mind ... and a sundial only works on cloudless days. So the question is not if we’ll wait, but rather “how” we’ll wait. I believe “how” will determine “how long!”

We’ll all wait one of two ways: ***Passively or expectantly.*** A **passive** person hopes something good will happen and is willing to sit around waiting to see if it does. After a short time, he gives up saying, “That’s it. I’ve waited and nothing happened.” Quoting a famous teacher, “He had a lot of wishbone but no backbone.” The **expectant** person is hopeful, be-



believing the answer is just around the corner.” He wakes up every morning expecting to find his answer. He may wait and wait but suddenly what he’s been waiting for happens. **(The pessimist’s greatest fear is that the optimist is right!)** Our situation can change suddenly without warning. One thing is certain—before God moves suddenly, ***we will wait!*** Waiting for answers is a fact of life—nobody gets out of it! A pregnant woman is referred to as “expecting.” She carries the promise even though she can’t see it. She knows it’s there the moment she learns of her condition. She begins to plan for her baby’s arrival. She prepares the details for his/her arrival, a nursery, special items that the baby will need. She knows the promise will be fulfilled in a certain amount of time. Give or take one or two weeks. She is set on waiting as long as it takes. Wait means to expect, “to look for.” Our expectation is geared to sooner than later. Many times the waiting period serves as a time of preparation. As the mother is eager with faith, wanting something very much, hopefully yearning, whole hearted, dedicated and motivated. Sometimes we find ourselves in messes hard to imagine, waiting one more day or hour or minute or even one more second.

DEADLINES ARE OUR REDLINE

TRUST: Firm belief or strength of someone. **PATIENCE:** *The capacity to tolerate delay or suffering without getting angry or bitter; belief in the reliability.* But it doesn’t make any sense for Paul and Silas (His anointed servants) who are serving God. Acts 16:17 starts with, “*These men are the servants of the Most High God—to show us the way of salvation.,*” (22) “*The multitude rose up against them, tore off their clothes and beat them.*” (24) “*Beat them with stripes put them in stocks into a prison.*” Between verse 24 and 25 scripture offers no explanation nor does it show any bitterness because of what they were having to go through nor did they blame God! It just says, (25) “*And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises unto God and the prisoners heard them.*” (26) “*And SUDDENLY a great shaking, an earthquake, the foundations of the prison were shaken. IMMEDIATELY all the doors were open and every one’s bonds were loosed.*” There is no record that they asked, “How long will we be here God? Will we get some medical help, antibiotics to keep infection from us? Are they going to kill us?” It was a SAME DAY breakthrough for them. For the three Hebrews boys, it was a SAME DAY breakthrough. For Daniel, it was a SAME DAY breakthrough.

Don’t give up, don’t stop believing, stay full of hope and expectation. “Hope deferred makes the heart sick” (Prov.13:12). His power is limit-

less. None of the aforementioned escaped His eye and care. All of them were serving Him up to the very day they were threatened with death and destruction, threatened with possibilities of being burned alive, to rot in prison and then Daniel was facing the possibility of being eaten by wild beasts. We cry out, "When, oh God?"

To Mary and Martha Jesus was too late. "*If you'd been here, our brother would still be alive.*" (Jn.11:21) Some might want to say, "Lord if you would have showed up, my marriage would not have failed. Lord you waited too long." "My servant says my daughter has died." Jesus still answers us the same today, "Just believe." (Mk.5:36) **He didn't save them from those circumstances, He just showed up TO BE WITH THEM.** He is our **breakthrough**.

God has answered the enemy's assaults many a time in strange ways. God can grant sleep in the lions' den, prevent burns in the fire, arrange freedom from prison without a trial, open waters so His people walk out across the Red Sea on dry ground. (The narrowest part of the Red Sea is around 16 miles, the shallowest was 164 feet.) (KJV Isaiah 43:19) "*Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it?*" There is a time when God releases a sprinkling of His power to encourage our expectation, to remind us He's not forgotten us. He gives us a supernatural law, contrasting blessings and miracles. At some-time or another everyone will need a miracle. There are times when we just can't come out of certain circumstances without supernatural means. **MIRACLE: "A SUPER NATURAL INTERVENTION by God suspending natural laws"**. We can be divinely healthy or be miraculously healed. I'll take either or both as needed.

At times we just need a miracle. How do you receive your miracle? How do you receive your breakthrough? Many say, I believe God can do it! That's not enough. But these are at a loss on how to receive, how do you get from where you are to where His miracles are? Some think that place is wish and hope and pray. If we could, we'd do anything to make it happen. That's why we are so dependent on God and His love for us. God is more predictable than you think. He's orderly. He's got promises. He still stands behind them. His law in this world is to be predictable for us so we can believe He can do what He's already done. He's never going to change. He sets laws to govern all things. (Romans 3:27) "*The law of faith.*" Faith is governed by law. It doesn't just work sometimes but every time. When a plane crashes the N.T.S.B. is contacted. They look for pilot error, mechanical failure, weather forces. But on closer investigation, sometime they say none of those things affected the crash. But you

NEVER hear anyone say, “Well, the law was just not working that day. Aerodynamics stopped that day. Hopefully next time it will work.” If that were the case, I’m not flying anymore. Not an option! They don’t doubt the law! It’s unchangeable.

You can tap into a miracle and breakthrough. You can see God more in your life. (Ephesians 3:20) “*Now unto him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think...*” We all believe that, RIGHT? That’s the way people believe it but it’s not the way it’s written. Let’s look closer this time at Ephesians 3:20: “*Now unto him that is able to do exceeding and abundantly above all we ask or think* **ACCORDING TO THE POWER THAT WORKS IN US**.” That’s God allowing us to partner with Him. I wish it were the other way. Why, because it puts too much pressure on me to believe, to wait. So with all these miraculous breakthroughs like Daniel, Moses, Israel, Shadrach, Paul and Silas had, they worked according to the power they believed God has put within them to believe Him with. The scripture said He flows through the power that works in you. If you turn off the power in you, you turned off God’s power on your behalf in your life. Satan can’t stop God but we can. He doesn’t want to stop but He will not violate your will to believe. It’s God’s will for you to have everything you need in this life—no matter what’s going on. The three Hebrews could have said, “Well, it’s true we didn’t bow to the King so we deserve to be roasted. It’s the King’s law.” No! A higher law said, “Thou shall not worship other Gods.” (Ex.23:24) They trusted God working in them. They even said, “Our God is able to deliver us out of the fire.” Daniel could have said, “I went against the King’s decree, so I must be eaten by lions. It’s the law.” No! I have a higher mandate from the King of Kings to pray and seek His face. Paul and Silas could have said, “We’ve had a good life, let’s just accept our fate.” No! “Let’s worship our God in the face of the impossible. The God of the impossible can give us an impossible breakthrough.” We have a mindset that God is angry or so ticked at us and He’s ready to get us. That’s religious talk. Most of us were brought up not to believe in these things. If you’ve been taught a lot of junk, it takes time to get it out of you. It’s God’s Word that will renew your mind.

I’ve witnessed breakthrough in my life cause I didn’t know NOT to believe God. It doesn’t make it any easier when I need it. In the face of sickness or in the face of hearing doctors tell you, it won’t work or it will take a radical process, or it might take “this” or “that” without any guarantees and their words sometimes reverberate in your ears and you just have to stop listening and just believe the Words of the Lord. You may have heard God heals today or maybe you read it five years ago, but unless that reality is alive in you today you may not be able to believe God for the miracle. Are we keeping alive what we’ve heard? Someone might say, “Well, He healed me back then but I don’t know about today.” What’s changed? You have changed, not God.

We have crossed the threshold of believing when it’s no longer “in our mind” but “in our heart.” I can’t tell you where that threshold is but you’ll know it when you cross it. “Your knower will know.” Remember the threshold for

breakthrough is initially opened from His side to accomplish it for our side. Your carnal mind will try to counter you but God's Word in you says, *"According to the power that works in us."* Well then, God has already given us the very thing we need to believe with. There is one key we can all learn. If we HUMBLE ourselves under the Mighty Hand of God, in **Due Time**, He will exalt us. **"Due Time"** is God's time. (Ecclesiastes 3:1) *"To everything there is a season and a time for every matter or purpose under heaven."* God's timing is often a mystery yet His Word promises that He will never be late, not once. (Habakkuk 2:3 AMP) *"For the vision is yet for the appointed [future] time-It hurries toward the goal [of fulfillment]; it will not fail. Even though it delays, wait (patiently) for it because it will certainly come; it will not delay."* YOUR BREAKTHROUGH IS ON THE WAY...DO YOU AGREE?

(Lynn Burling pastors Christian Faith Church in Bellville, TX. He is Texas Bishop for the Association of Evangelical Gospel Assemblies and President of From The Heart Ministries. His teaching CDs are available at CFC Church phone: 979-865-5464. Kathy and I have enjoyed staying at their lovely bed and breakfast: www.somewhereintimebb.com. Lynn & Linda are gracious hosts.)



There are two aspects of God's rule I want to point out. In scripture we can see **first** God's Kingdom sovereign rule. Psalm 103:19 declares God's sovereign rule is over all. Even when man disobeyed God and came under Satan's authority, God was still sovereign ruler over this earth. Whether we like it or not, God rules over Satan. Satan is an instrument God uses. God has always ruled over the kings of nations. Nebuchadnezzar didn't know that and thought he was god, until God got through with him.

The **second** aspect of God's rule is Christ's redemptive rule or King-

dom rule, and I want to look into that rule. Let's start with 1 Cor 15:21. There is probably a ninety percent agreement that this scripture is talking about the resurrection, the Second Coming of the Lord and the end of human history. *For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.* Due to man's disobedience we experience death, but because of Christ's obedience we can experience resurrection from the dead in our physical bodies. The redeeming Kingdom of Jesus Christ has come to redeem all of creation and redeem man spirit, soul and body. Physical resurrection is part of Christ's redeeming Kingdom. *23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.* "Christ the first fruits", is the only one with a glorified body. We know when He comes we will have a glorified body also. The Second Coming is a hope and the fulfillment of His redemptive Kingdom coming to full consummation.

The Second Coming does not start His Kingdom. That's when His redemptive Kingdom comes to its fullest and ushers in the eternal age. The dispensational view is that at His Second Coming He will then set up His redemptive Kingdom and call it the Millennial Reign. However, we believe that when He came in His first advent, He started the redemptive Kingdom and it will come to complete fullness in His Second Coming. So we are already operating in His redemptive Kingdom.

In verse 24, *Then comes the end . . .* When God created man, there was a beginning and an end. There is going to be an end to human history. Jesus is the Alpha and Omega. He started it and He is going to finish it. One day there will be an end to human history and time will be no more. Then we will move in fullness into the age to come, the eternal age. When we receive resurrected bodies at the Second Coming of the Lord, that ends time. There are those that believe there is a 1000 years afterwards, but that is not what the scripture says. The scripture says that when He comes that ends time.

Then comes the end when He delivers the Kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. When His Kingdom comes to a full consummation on this earth, the Lord returns as a result of His Kingdom coming to a full consummation. And the last enemy dealt with is death. If death is the last enemy, then every other enemy has to have been dealt with already before He comes. It is important to realize that He is not coming to deal with His enemy. When He comes, His enemy has already been dealt with.

Right now, we are dealing with Christ's redemptive Kingdom that

was promised right after the fall of man. Adam and Eve came out from under God's rule and covenant. Gen 3:15 was the first promise of Christ coming to redeem man. The seed of woman would bruise the head of Satan. In the dispensational view, that is fulfilled at the Second Coming. However, if we believe in the reality of the redemptive Kingdom it happens when He comes in His first advent. The whole Old Testament was simply promises of this redemptive Kingdom that was coming. Jesus was the fulfillment of all those promises of this redemptive Kingdom.

Then comes the end - (the end of human history), verse 25, For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him,". Legally all things have been put under Him at His redemptive work at Calvary, but it must be worked out in history. "It is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all. (NKJ) (Here we see again the sovereign rule of God.)

At His Second Coming, this redemptive Kingdom reaches its complete fullness. The Second Coming ushers in the eternal age in its fullness, but we have already entered into a foretaste of the eternal age. Of course, there are opposing views concerning these things and this is a major source of confusion in the Church.

The dispensational view seems to be that Christ did indeed promise a redemptive Kingdom; however, when He came to ethnic Israel and they rejected Him, everything was postponed. Jesus then went to the cross to release a period of grace to the nations (Gentiles). Although a remnant would be saved, Satan would continue to dominate the nations and evil would get so bad that even God's elect would be overcome. So He will have to rapture out the Church from the nations and then the last days begin. The dispensational view depicts the last days as terrible times when God pours out His wrath upon Gentiles and that ends the time of the Gentiles. Then Jesus comes back and rules in ethnic Israel for a thousand years.

We believe Jesus in the first advent came to be King and set up a redemptive Kingdom of salvation. The Old Testament promised a King would come to save His people. Now that Kingdom has a beginning. When the old covenant age was coming to an end the new covenant was beginning and there was a period of overlapping. The old was winding down, but until it fully ended the new could not fully begin. This overlap

of time is what the scripture refers to as “the last days”, not the last days of human history, but the last days of the old covenant age. There were several events that had to take place in those last days of the old covenant. At the point the last days fully finished, then the new covenant fully began in its redemptive Kingdom. Thereafter, it progressively increases to subdue God’s enemies and bring forth righteousness in the earth until it reaches its full consummation. Then Christ comes back. When Christ comes back, we move into the eternal age and there’s no time after that.

What bothers me most about dispensationalism is that it implies Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection was not impacting enough, not even enough to keep evil from getting worse and worse. That paradigm that says things have to get worse is a stronghold of Satan. It is a force determined to convince us that we are waiting for a great evil to prompt the Lord’s coming.

The dispensational view looks to the Second Coming instead of Calvary for victory. But Calvary was a definitive work that has powerful effect until the full consummation of the Kingdom. We say the finished work is Calvary, not the Second Coming. I do not believe evil has to get worse and worse. If there is only a future, postponed Kingdom, where is the power now? According to scripture, the Kingdom comes into our lives like a seed and then grows like leaven until it dominates our lives individually and collectively. So, something is wrong if it doesn’t!

The time the scripture refers to as worse and worse is the last days of the old covenant with the apostate church working with the antichrist spirit. The redemptive Kingdom was already in motion and still is and will progressively increase until righteousness dominates. There is no argument that as long as there is sin in this earth there will be pain and sorrow and death and wars, but Calvary’s effect is so powerful that Satan cannot continue to dominate the earth.

When Jesus came, He started the last days of the old covenant, and the last days were finished in the old covenant when the temple was destroyed. Until that temple was destroyed, the old covenant lingered and the new covenant could not fully blossom. The New Covenant began with Jesus but was not fully realized until 70 AD when Jerusalem was judged. This is when they looked for the immediate return of the Lord. We don’t live under that same anticipation. The Apostles anticipated His return and looked for the immediate return of the Lord for judgment upon apostate Israel and the removing of the temple. In Matthew 24, He said there would not be one stone left upon another. The Apostles were looking for imminent fulfillment of that prophecy and judgment. It marked the end of the age, not the end of the world. (The word there is not “cosmos”.)

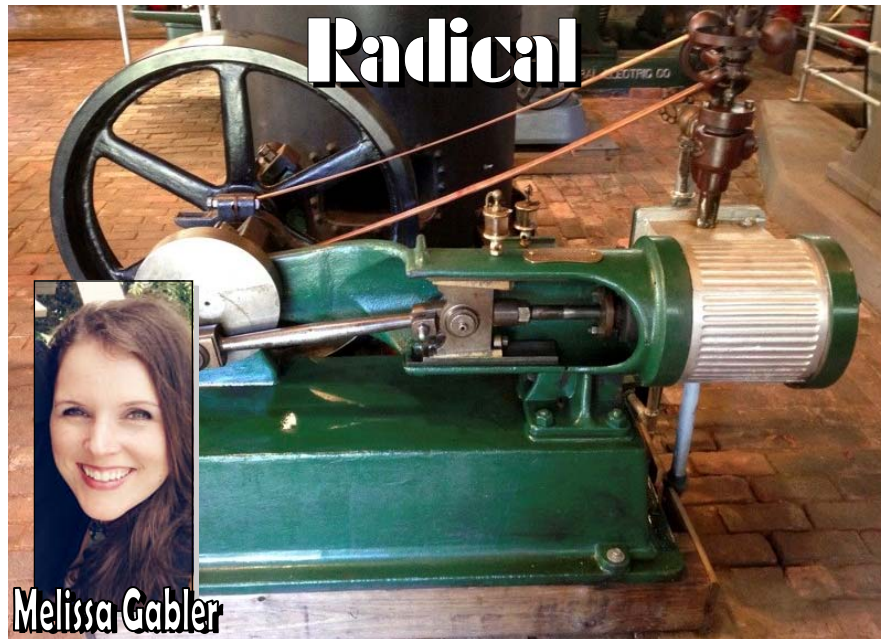
How could the new covenant fully begin until the old ended? There was an overlap of the old and new. When Jesus preached and said the Kingdom is here, it began. His ministry starts it. He cast out devils and began to bind Satan.

Through His death He was bringing an end to the old and bringing a fore-taste or a fore-beginning of the new. Through His resurrection He was bringing the old covenant to an end and bringing the new to life. In His ascension, the new covenant was rising to flourish.

There was a period of 40 years after Jesus' ascension that dealt with the last days of the old covenant. Every scripture that says "the last days" refers to that 40 year period. He could not enter into a covenant with His new bride until His old wife Jerusalem was judged for her apostasy. In Daniel 9, the reason the 40 years is so critical is because it is finishing the writings of the new covenant. Dispensationalist try to put books of John and Revelation after 70 AD to prove their theories. But scripture indicates that the canon of scriptures had to be sealed by 70 AD. Nothing can be added after that. "Last days" always points to the end of the old covenant. Not one of these scriptures point to the future. As we look in the book of Hebrews, we find the converted Jewish community had come under hellish persecution from apostate Israel. They were trying to pull them back into the old covenant and the pressure was so great that many were walking out and going back. The book of Hebrews stresses the old covenant is as obsolete as the temple. Also it was just promises, but Christ is the new covenant fulfillment.

(This article was taken from a teaching given by Simon Purvis. He is the lead teacher at the Word of Life Teaching Center in Lufkin, TX. Training is at 10:00am each Sunday. To contact him about speaking engagements or to purchase his 160 page study manual on the Kingdom of God, call Word of Life Teaching Center at 936-639-2000; Email: wol-luf@consolidated.net)

I was praying about our nation. I was listing the issues and the chaos and the unrighteousness. It was then that I saw a vision of a boxing ring. A man in a tux walked out into the center of the ring, took the microphone and announced the fight. He pointed to his left and said, "In this corner is anarchy, liberalism, atheism, existentialism, failing morals and failing values." The crowd would gasp in horror each time the announcer would list another of the creature's attributes. Each time he listed another name or description, the dark creature in that corner grew another inch and gained another 20 pounds until he menacingly filled that corner of the ring. Then I heard a voice cry out and ask, "But who will figure the Holy Spirit into the equation? Who will announce Him?" In the vision I jumped to my feet and cried aloud, "I will!" I climbed into the ring, took the microphone and said, "BUT in THIS corner is the One who, in the beginning when the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of the deep, this One, the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters and chaos was changed into order!" The crowd jumped to their feet and began to shout until the roar was deafening. The whole atmosphere changed. Don't count out the Holy Spirit. Too many people are climbing into the ring of discussion and opinion, taking the mic and announcing the negative. Every time we announce the negative, we give it more size and weight in our thinking and the thinking of others. David overcame his enemies but reported this pattern while he was doing it: "From the rising of the sun to its setting The name of the Lord is to be praised." (Ps113:3) (Marty Gabler)



Recently I was praying over a situation and all I heard loud and clear was the word "radical". I could get behind that! Yes, radical change in this situation. I began to speak "radical" into my concern. It was one of those kind of things, however, that just kept rolling around and growing inside of me. It just felt like it meant more than I was currently grasping. It also felt like it was for more than just that particular situation. So, I looked the word up in the Websters 1828 Dictionary.

Check this out: Radical: **1.** *Pertaining to the root or origin; original; fundamental; as a radical truth or error; a radical evil; a radical difference of opinions or systems.* **2.** *Implanted by nature; native; constitutional; as the radical moisture of a body.* **3.** *Primitive; original; underived; uncompounded; as a radical word.* **4.** *Serving to origination.* **5.** *In botany, proceeding immediately from the root; as a radical leaf or peduncle.*

Well, oh my! Radical is a much stronger word than I thought it was. Basically, what I see in these definitions is that radical means going back to God's original intent. So, when the Holy Spirit says "radical" He fully intends to take the current situation and put that person, family, business, region, etc. back on track with His original intent. With one word He intends to align what has been out of line. With one word He intends to right the wrongs. With one word he intends to do what He had in mind all along.

This word has become my one word declaration over many situations and people. It's one word, but it says it all! Right here in the middle of some of the most chaotic days of most of our lives, God says one word — one very loaded and life-changing word. It might seem like the end of all things, but fear not. We

are about to see the radical that has been happening behind the scenes. We might think we have seen radical happening already. Nope, we are about to see radical for real. Isaiah 55:11 (His word will accomplish what He pleases) is a truth that we will see manifest in our day. How so? Radically. No need in any of us trying to figure out how, for whom, or even when. Radical is a steam engine barreling down the track building speed. Let's just get out of the way.

To you and your family I say, "radical!" To the United States of America, one nation under God, I say, "RADICAL!"

(Melissa will be speaking at the DREAMS VISIONS PROPHECY SYMPOSIUM at Grace International Church in Willis, TX September 22-23, 2017. For more info and updates: martygabler.com/dreams-visions-prophecy/ or Church: 936-856-2455. Plan now to attend!)



We are in a new era and a new war in this nation. The waves of war are raging over our nation in the natural and in the atmosphere. Throughout the Word of God we see where God required His leaders and His people to arise and confront His enemies. We can look at Deborah as she stepped outside her comfort zone to go to the battlefield. Joshua led a people into battle to confront God's enemies. David raised up an army to conquer God's enemies. I could go on and on with a list of those who arose and took the battle to God's enemies.

Just like David, Joshua, and Deborah we are in a new Era. Things are not as they have been. If we continue to war as we have done in the past, we stand a chance of missing God. I believe God is asking us "Will you stand with me and contend for the victory over this Nation?"

I would like to share with you what the Lord is speaking to me about this nation that is causing us to initiate a confrontation with the waves raging over our Nation. On November 21, 2016 I woke with an overwhelming desire to see our Law Enforcement (LE) honored on a massive scale. It was like I was nine months pregnant. I could not believe what I was hearing or feeling. This was far outside of my sphere of comfort and calling or so I thought.

This was not anything I had ever thought about or desired. The most I had ever done was when seeing an Officer, I would approach them and let them know I appreciated all they do to keep us safe. This was a whole new territory for me. I began to pray and seek God with a thousand questions. I started off first by telling God why I was not the person to do this! I had a long list. I was sure He would be impressed with my list. He was not. When I finally finished, He began to speak.

He first began to speak to me the following:

- 1) He said this is something that must be done in a time of peace, not because we are mourning the loss of an officer or because your region is in chaos. This had to be done for no other reason than our deep appreciation for all Law Enforcement does each and every day to keep us safe.
- 2) He began to show me how we could cross denominational lines and racial lines and bring leaders together in a region to honor our LE. He said these people may never come into agreement on belief systems but can come together in agreement on honoring our LE. I began to see what a powerful tool this could be in the hands of the Lord. The power of agreement works with believers and unbelievers. I saw how with this happening it made a powerful statement in the atmosphere, in our region and our nation.
- 3) This is happening at a time when many in our nation are letting their voice be heard that they do not respect the laws of our land nor do they honor those who enforce the laws. I realized in the midst of this that those who break the laws of the land make their voices heard very loudly, while those of us who abide by the laws tend to keep quiet. I understood we have an opportunity and responsibility to let our voice be heard in honoring our LE as they enforce the law.
- 4) I began to see how if we had 30-second slots on TV we could share how we support and honor our LE. At this time, I am working with our local TV and Radio station. It is bringing ministers together in agreement to honor our LE. Our first video has a Rabbi, Assemblies of God, and

Muslim all in agreement in honoring our LE We are filling the airwaves with honor for our men and women who labor to keep law and order.

We are moving forward at a very fast pace. Space will not permit me to tell all that is happening but I can tell you that God has gone far and above anything I ever thought was possible. The "Love the Badge" initiative is currently launching in Tyler, Texas with a national reach on the horizon. I believe He is asking for us to let our voice be heard so that our Law Enforcement knows "there are more for them than against them."

In July 2012 Brother Jim Hodges wrote an article in SEEC magazine about "Confronting the waves". This is a man ahead of his time, in revelation and wisdom. I am so grateful to have the honor of being in Apostolic relationship with him. He is my friend and my Apostolic leader. Below is a quote from that article.

"We are in a storm in America, meteorologically (with crazy weather), politically and spiritual. There are waves of potential destruction that are pounding us and this land of freedom is being assaulted daily by the waves of tyranny. The Church ought not be traveling with the current culture of our nation, rather it should be traveling with us. We should have our hands on the wheel and charting the course. Upon the ocean of history the Lord God expects the apostolic ecclesia to steer the ship of Kingdom purpose. The Kingdom is not limited to the Church, but we are discharged by God to have our hands on the wheel."

May we the Church arise, put our hands to the wheel and let our voices be heard in this wonderful Nation we have the honor of living in. May we arise and confront the waves of destruction, division, and death trying to overtake our Nation. By being a voice of honor for our LE we are not only letting them know we appreciate the sacrifices they and their family make each and every day to keep this nation safe, we also are letting the enemy know we will not keep silent in this new Era. We will use our voice to contend for victory, order, and honor in our nation.

I invite you to join with me as we contend for honor of our Law Enforcement and tend the Garden of our Nation with the heart of God and the purposes of God in our mouth. For more information on how you can be part of the "Love the Badge" movement please contact me, Tricia Miller at Email: Lovethebadge@yahoo.com.

(With a vision for the nations, Tricia ministers salvation, healing and deliverance. She seeks to train and equip the Body of Christ for the work of the ministry. She desires that believers and nonbelievers alike are transformed and all pursue their calling and destiny in the Kingdom of God. Miller Ministries International * PO Box 9458 Tyler, Texas 75711 903-780-0377 fax 903-561-8542 email: millerintmin@aol.com)



Before Christians were ever called by that name, they were referred to as “the Way.” In fact, you can find it seven times in the book of Acts, but only once were they called Christians, and never once was their religion referred to as Christianity. There must have been good reason for them to be known that way. Pastor and author Brian Zahnd says this, “The common life of following Jesus together was called the Way, not because it was the way to heaven (the afterlife was never the emphasis), but because they had come to believe that in his death and resurrection Jesus had inaugurated a new way of life. Because the lifestyle of the Way was such a radical departure from the way of the Roman Empire, it is no surprise that people viewed the way with great suspicion and often maligned it as a dangerous cult.”

The first account we have in the gospels of Jesus giving us a description of what this Way looks like is in chapters 5, 6, and 7 of Matthew. The Sermon on the Mount has often been called the constitution of the Kingdom, and appropriately so, yet I marvel that it seems to be so often given less credence by the church than our own United States constitution.

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the most beautiful works of literature ever written. At least, that’s the way I looked at it for most of my life.



Now don't misunderstand me, I still believe it's beautiful. Some of the concepts put forth, however, seemed like something that could only be attained by Christ himself, or at the very least, by believers after passing from this life to the next. Turn the other cheek? Right. Love your enemies? Sure, no problem.

In the past few years, Holy Spirit has drawn me into these three chapters of Matthew's gospel as if He were dragging me in by the collar and saying, "I'm going to hold you here until this forms you!"

While the Sermon on the Mount can indeed be considered the constitution of the kingdom, we cannot allow ourselves to merely give mental assent to it, stand back and look at it with admiration as we would a masterpiece painting in an art gallery. We must let the Artist Himself draw us into it and see that He has painted us into the picture.

The kingdom life described here once seemed so foreign to me because it is simply not accepted or suggested behavior in our culture, especially here in the west. It's not like Jesus didn't prepare us for this message when He said in chapter 4, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Repent – change the way you think, resulting in a life change.

My view of the Sermon on the Mount changed when I began to understand that the Kingdom of heaven Jesus speaks about is not some far-away place, but a present reality. Does the Lord's Prayer ring a bell, anybody? *Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

When Jesus sat down on the hillside that day, He began his teaching by laying out the Beatitudes: *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness (justice), for they shall be filled (satisfied). Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."* (Matt.5:3-12)

We must understand that the meaning of the word "gospel" is literally, "good news." In light of that, what Jesus is saying is, "You are blessed if this describes you." When Jesus uses the word "blessed", it literally means "happy." Jesus is saying, "Hey, I've got good news for those

who have been marginalized by society and the religious elite!” N.T. Wright says this:

“Follow me, Jesus said to the first disciples; because in him the living God was doing a new thing, and this list of ‘wonderful news’ is part of his invitation, part of his summons, part of his way of saying that God is at work in a fresh way and that this is what it looks like. Jesus is beginning a new era for God’s people and God’s world. From here on, all the controls people thought they knew about are going to work the other way around. In our world, still, most people think that wonderful news consists of success, wealth, long life, victory in battle. Jesus is offering wonderful news for the humble, the poor, the mourners, the peacemakers.”

The Lord’s Prayer is probably the most commonly spoken prayer in the Bible by Christians around the world, yet there seems to be so much disregard for the weightiness of it. When we pray “your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”, we are saying, “I’m willing to surrender my life to the extent that it looks like heaven.” What does heaven look like? It looks like Jesus.

In my experience, when talking about the Sermon on the Mount with others, certain questions always come up, such as, “Do you think Jesus really expects us to live this way? I mean, all that ‘turning the other cheek’ and ‘loving your enemies’ stuff sounds good, but I live in the real world.” I submit to you that there is a world that is more real than the terra firma that we stand on. It is called the Kingdom of heaven. This is the realm Jesus speaks from.

The question then, is not “how can I make Jesus’ message fit into my world?” But rather, “How can I begin to see from the perspective of the Kingdom of heaven?” There are three things that have helped me to begin to see from the Kingdom perspective:

1. Repentance. This is one of the most misunderstood words in the Bible. When Jesus said, “*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*,” (Matt. 4:23) He wasn’t saying, “Hurry, run to the altar, fall on your face and weep (although if you’d like to start by doing that, it is perfectly fine).” The word “repent” means to “change your mind.” That’s it! Over two years ago, I reached a point where I realized that I needed to change the way I think. Some ways of thinking that had become entrenched in my brain were actually toxic thoughts that were contrary to the Kingdom of heaven. I learned a process by which I could begin eliminating those

thoughts and replacing them with good ones. If you would like to learn more about it, you can go to my website asyouthink.org, where I explain this process in more detail. True transformation only comes when our minds are renewed. (Rom. 12:2)

2. Study the life of Jesus, not just His birth and death but everything in between: His teachings, His miracles, His compassion. As I saw that so much of my thinking was so contrary to the specifics of what Jesus taught us in the gospels, I began to immerse myself in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. So much of what I had read most of my life came alive to me in a new way. You will be amazed at how different western Christianity looks compared to The Way.

3. Prayer. This may well be one of the most neglected practices of the church today. It was for me. It's not that I never prayed. I prayed, but I was very undisciplined in prayer. I've had a regular "devotion" time in the morning for over thirty years, but it was relegated mainly to a little reading from Psalms or Proverbs and maybe a devotional book. When I did pray, most of my praying was in tongues because I just didn't really know how or what to pray. Praying in the Spirit, or praying in tongues is very beneficial and I certainly don't want to minimize it, but there is plenty for us to pray in our native language also. First, there are quite a few prayers in the Bible. The Old and New Testaments are full of prayer, especially the Psalms. Find them and pray them. I have a prayer liturgy that I pray every morning now. It consists of several prayers from Psalms, the Lord's Prayer, and some prayers that were composed by the early church. Prayer is ultimately not about us getting what we ask for from God, but it is more about us becoming conformed to the image of his Son. Prayer forms us.

The world in which we live (and much of the church) has a distorted image of God. It is our responsibility to show them what He is really like. God did exactly that when He took on the form of a man and came to earth. The Sermon on the Mount is a great place to begin to understand what that looks like when it is walked out. Unfortunately, you won't find it watching the perpetual cycle of bad news on TV or listening to the endless chatter of the talking heads on the radio. There is more than enough good news to go around. It's the gospel of the Kingdom.

(Kevin Sherman and his wife Becky live in Conroe, TX. Kevin is the father of four sons. He serves at Grace International Church as a teacher and EYC staff member. He is also currently a teacher and mentor at Fresh Start in Conroe. Kevin writes a weekly blog. To subscribe go to: asyouthink.org)

Your Handiwork

By Jean Hodges

The heavens are testifying
and the earth cries out
“You alone created us”
and cried with a shout

“Let there be light”
morning and night,
daylight and darkness
obeying Your might

Bring forth, Oh Earth,
all I’ve ordained,
mountains and valleys
all deserts and planes

For the purpose of My heart
to establish and reign,
to extend My Kingdom,
My glory and Name

All nations and peoples
I’ve brought forth in time
Calling the righteous
to glories divine

Yes, the heavens rejoice
at the sound of your praise,
and the earth cries out
with a new voice raised

“How glorious You are
our Creator and King”
Calling forth and forming
Your new mature sons

To restore us and renew
what was lost at the fall,
Your handiwork finished
A new earth for All.





Many times the future is depicted by a picture of an open door. The way to the future, to fulfillment, to victories, to glorifying the Name of the Most High God is open before us now—wide open. There are open doors before us to take us where we have never been before. We will go through those doors and be successful because the Kingdom purposes of God for us in our generation will propel us there to glorify His Name.

There is, however, a process of decision-making that we must give ourselves to. Jehovah's instruction to prophet Jeremiah has embodied within it the matter of choosing. Jer 21:8 *"You shall also say to this people, 'Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death.'"* Deut 30:19 plainly shows us that our God puts His power of command to us in hopes that we will chose life instead of death and choose blessing instead of a curse. We are not simply those who observe and experience the coming and the passing of days and calendar events. We have choices to make as to how those days, events and people affect us; choices as to how we will affect those days, events and people. We can be bearers of life or of death; bearers of blessing or curses.

In the fullness of His wisdom and who He is, Father has placed opportunities and choices before us. But our Father does not leave us without guidance as to what kind of decisions that are best and fitting for us to



make. Mat 7:13 *Enter through the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and spacious and broad is the way that leads away to destruction, and many are those who are entering through it.* 14 *But the gate is narrow (contracted by pressure) and the way is straitened and compressed that leads away to life, and few are those who find it.* Now we have, in both the Old Testament and in the New Testament, true foundation and guidelines for how we choose to go about making decisions. Whether or not we go through the many divinely-ordained opened doors God has put before us this year will depend upon how we make decisions this year. But you must know that there are many doors open before you. They are not just barely cracked open and they are certainly not locked but wide open for His Kingdom purposes, for His Name's sake.

"For wide is the gate and broad is the way" is terminology that informs us it is easy to get to destruction. Making no decision can get us to destruction as well as making the wrong decision. Not going through ordained doors can end us up in destruction as well as going through doors someone (or something, e.g., misguided sentiment or obligation) other than Father opened for us. If you simply plant a garden and leave it and never attend it by pulling weeds and watering it, it will soon come to fruitlessness, even destruction. That which is ignored or neglected will soon grow up and choke out its life. If we neglect or ignore matters of health and nutrition our bodies begin to break down and fall into destruction. We must make choices to be healthy. Destruction can easily come without it having to be worked at. There must be a choosing of, and corresponding acting upon, life and blessing.

The gate in Matt 7 is not narrow because God is mean and put the posts really close together so folks would have to squeeze through while holding their bellies in. The gate is narrow by virtue of the things that are about it. The gate of prosperity is wide open before us at the end of this year but shopping networks, impulse spending and high-interest-rate credit cards are standing between us and the gate of prosperity. The gate of good health and fitness is wide open for us to go through this year but easily obtained carbohydrates, sugar, flour, salt and fats are boldly, challengingly standing all around that gate. Getting to the gate is a challenge and getting through the gate is not easy because of what we must pass through to get over its threshold. There are gates of life and gates of death, gates of blessing and gates of curses. Which gates we go through, if we go through them at all, are accomplished by beginning with a choice. To go through the gate of prosperity we must now save and/or invest money while cutting back on using easy-to-get, high-interest-rate credit. To go through the gate of physical fitness we must practice self-government and

resist delicious sugar-loaded and fat-loaded foods and command our soul to follow after a good exercise routine.

There are doors of opportunity for the Kingdom to advance. As a result of that factor, there are doors of opportunity for us to go to a level we have never been to, to stand upon mountains we have never stood on. There are doors to take our children through, doors to lead the hungry and the hurting through. Many lost and distressed and hopeless people stand where they do because they see no way out. They cannot see doors of release because of the immediate press of needs and issues. But there are doors before us and when we go through them it is possible to lead many others through them. We are not going through doors just for ourselves but for others. It is similar to the principle Jesus spoke of when laying down His life: Joh 12:24 *I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains [just one grain; it never becomes more but lives] by itself alone. But if it dies, it produces many others and yields a rich harvest.* (Amplified) We must be willing to “lay down our lives” (Jn10:15; 15:13), i.e., sacrifice to go through the doors of life and blessing for the benefit of that which is bigger than we are, namely, the Kingdom of God on earth.

There are a variety of excuses for not going through God-ordained doors of opportunity. Some of the doors we are supposed to go through are just beyond temptation. Some of them are just beyond ignorance and neglect and some are just beyond lethargy. Temptation can be resisted, ignorance can be displaced by willful pursuance of knowledge and wisdom. Neglect can be exchanged for responsible activity and lethargy can be handled by self-government. There are many waiting for us to make the right choices to get beyond the hindrances that stand between us and the doors to success in advancing the Kingdom in this earth.

If you will hear it, I declare over you that those things that have made the gate “narrow” by virtue of their presence will not be the obstacles in the coming year that they were in the past year. They will not be those obstacles because you will not allow them to be. You will not give them the place they have had in your life in the past.

Doors there are and we shall go through them. We shall walk through them, we shall run through them and those who go with us shall experience the Kingdom of God.... on earth as it is in heaven. Go through, walk through, run through and if you have to.... battle through!

(Marty will be speaking at the DREAMS VISIONS PROPHECY SYMPOSIUM at Grace International Church in Willis, TX September 22-23, 2017. For more info and updates: martygabler.com/dreams-visions-prophecy/ or Church: 936-856-2455. Plan now to attend! [This article is a reprint from Vol.15 Iss.1])

Thank you for praying. After each issue is mailed, more dates get added to the calendar. Bless you for praying for us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. Call before traveling.
Check Marty's FaceBook page for updates or our blog page: martygabler.com
PLEASE PRAY FOR US

We have been putting dates on the Calendar after the magazine goes out. Please check Marty's FaceBook page and martygabler.com for dates. We also serve on presbyteries, councils and prayer groups during the week that we don't post. Thank you for your prayers as we travel.— Marty & Kathy

June 11 * Houston, TX
Global Advance Church
Pastors: Luis y Korey Gomez
2:00pm * 281-580-8574
luisgomezp@yahoo.com
Bilingual Service*Spanish/English
www.globaladvancechurch.org

July 9 * Seguin, TX
New Life Fellowship 10am
Installation service to install Chris and Chelsea Larson as pastors and to honor Layne and Pamela Dietz.
Info: 830-372-1200
www.newlifefellowshipseguin.com

July 16 * Houston, TX
Centro de Restauracion Familiar
Family Restoration Center
Segundo Aniversario
Second Anniversary
Pastors Jorge y Lorena Gamboa

Marty & Kathy ministering
Service time: 5:00pm
281-857-6604

Website: seecministries.org
Daily Devotions: martygabler.com
Email: mail@seecministries.org
SEEC Ministries International
PO Box 298 Coldspring, TX 77331-0298
Office: 936-653-4108

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TEACHING * WORSHIP * MINISTRY * ACTIVATION
September 22-23, 2017

martygabler.com/dreams-visions-prophecy/

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